

REMARKS

Prior to entry of this amendment, claims 20-26 are currently pending in the subject application. Claim 21 has been amended. Claims 27-31 have been added. Claim 20 is independent.

In the outstanding Office action, mailed October 2, 2006, the Examiner asserted that the claims are directed to two patentably distinct species and required applicants to elect a single species from one of the two embodiments:

Embodiment 1 of Figures 3A-3F; and
Embodiment 2 of Figures 4A-4G.

The Examiner indicated claim 1 [sic] was generic. It is respectfully submitted that claims 20-27 and 30-31 are generic, that claim 28 reads on Embodiment 1 and claim 29 reads on Embodiment 2. The applicants hereby elect Embodiment 1.

Therefore, it is respectfully requested that claims 20-28 and 30-31 be examined. Action on the merits is solicited.

If the Examiner believes that additional discussions or information might advance the prosecution of the instant application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below to expedite resolution of any outstanding issues.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 2, 2006



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PETITION and
DEPOSIT ACCOUNT CHARGE AUTHORIZATION

This document and any concurrently filed papers are believed to be timely. Should any extension of the term be required, applicant hereby petitions the Director for such extension and requests that any applicable petition fee be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1645.

If fee payment is enclosed, this amount is believed to be correct. However, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1645.

Any additional fee(s) necessary to effect the proper and timely filing of the accompanying-papers may also be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1645.